

The ANTIQUE RADIO GAZETTE



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RADIO CLUB
OF AMERICA

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NO. 2



Picture Courtesy of John Williams

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It is our intention to have the Gazette published as closely as possible to the following dates:

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June 30
December 30

The closing dates for receiving material of all kinds in order to have it appear in the next issue would be:

February 15
August 15

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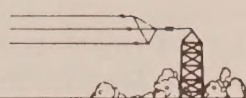
Yearly dues of \$12.00 U.S. currency are payable to ARCA January 1, of each year for members in the USA, Canada, and Mexico. Overseas dues are \$14, which includes airmail postage.

The Antique Radio club of America was incorporated in the State of Kentucky, in September, 1972. The first meeting was held at the Marriott Motor Inn, Washington D.C., on September 23, 1972. At this meeting, by-laws were read and approved and directors selected. We feel that the inception of this Club is a giant step in bringing together those individuals whose chief interest lies in the area of early radio. We invite all collectors and historians of the subject to join the club. A note to William E. Denk, Secretary, 81 Steeplechase Road, Devon, Pennsylvania 19333, will bring you an application blank by return mail.

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President's Page



Welcome back home to all of you who helped make ARCA '89 - Mystic the most successful convention to date. I trust everyone had a safe and memorable trip.

I want to express a very profound thank-you to all who helped make this a very wonderful experience for me, my family and all the other attendees who expressed their thanks to all who had a part in this show. Our convention chairman, John Terrey, deserves the sincere thanks of all of us for the difficult task that he undertook in bringing all the different pieces together on time.

There were so many who helped during the conference that space will not permit listing all their names; however, I have counted fifty (50) people by name who did something during the meet!!

Our seminar speakers and the demonstrations presented were excellent. The drivers and transportation coordinators spent hours behind the wheels of those white vans. The "Old Equipment" contest required many hours and someone to sleep in the room to guard your equipment. The judges who pulled their hair out trying to decide contest winners. The ones who kept order in the Flea Market. The Auction required a team of people for check-in of equipment and equipment handling. The clerks who tallied the bid sheets - what a team! Last, but never forgotten, the registration desk, which ran until 11:30 p.m. one evening. These people were our front line, registering a record number of people. Through their great PR work, they signed up 38 renewals and new members. To all, thanks for a job well done!!

The good news keeps coming. The Board of Directors approved the site location for ARCA - Radio '90 — Cincinnati, Ohio home of WLW, the Hotel arrangement have been made at Ramada's convention center in Sharonville, and Tim Kaiser has been named convention director. Mark your calendars for June '90.

The Membership meeting set the stage for our annual election. The officers who were currently serving were re-elected and Ed Lyon was officially installed as Recording Secretary and Board member. We all thank you for your expression of confidence and look forward to serving you for another year.

Lloyd McIntyre

NEWS FROM CHARLESTON

Chapter members have experienced some happy hunting for radios recently. Here are some items that have shown up for "Show and Tell", at the last two meetings: Yours truly found a Radiola II in near mint condition except for some deterioration of the leather carrying handle. It plays well with strong clear reception. The mahogany case and felt padding for earphone storage are like new.

At a small farm auction, Geoffrey Bourne was the highest bidder on a Kennedy V, three-tube sloped-front receiver. The tubes extend through the front panel. This radio was in excellent condition. One panel mounting bracket had been lost, but Geoff made a new one and challenged us to identify the replaced part.

Lloyd McIntyre recently bought a Port-A-Bar Radio. The plastic case houses a Stewart Warner radio. The bar had included four shot glasses, six tumblers, six swizzel sticks and one scotch and one bourbon decanter. One swizzel stick was missing. Handles and a cheater type cord permits portability of the refreshments without music, if desired. The radio is mono but if the bar is used to its full potential, one could very well see in stereo.

It is hoped that there were more happy finds and that the next issue can report them in this column. Also, the invitation is out for greater attendance at chapter meetings.

CLUB NEWS

Antique Radio Club of Illinois 'RADIO-FEST '89' August 10-12, Holiday Inn, Elgin, Il. Featuring a 3-day Flea market, auction, special Zenith exhibit, tours of Ralph Muchow's museum, contest, donation auction and Friday evening Awards' Banquet. For reservations call 312-695-5000 or write Holiday Inn, 345 River Rd., Elgin, IL 60120. For info, contact Jeff Aulik, 803 N. Chicago, Rockford, IL 61107, 815-399-1902 or Dave Johnson, 2336 S. Kenilworth, Berwyn, IL 60402, 312-484-2743.

NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB SUMMER SWAP & SELL MEET AND RADIO AUCTION

The New England Antique Radio Club will hold its Summer Swap & Sell Meet and Radio Auction Saturday, July 22, 1989 at Resurrection Center, Nashua, NH.

Participating in the morning Swap & Sell Meet will be club members from throughout New England, New York and New Jersey exhibiting hundreds of antique and collectible radios, TV's, parts, books, magazines and other related items for sale or trade. The abundance of radio styles, from early

crystal sets to 1950's transistors, will offer something for everyone. Special events of the day will include radio contests featuring TRF receivers and Pre-WWII crystal sets. Members and non-members alike are invited to attend and enjoy a morning full of fun and nostalgia. Swap Meet hours are 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Early buyer admission is \$5.00 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and general admission is \$1.00 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Be sure to stay for the afternoon auction which begins at 1 p.m. (Preview begins at 12 noon.) A wide variety of antique and collectible radios, TV's and related items will be put up for bid throughout the afternoon. Auction consignments are welcome from everyone, members as well as non-members, at a 10% sellers premium and there is no limit to the number of items that may be consigned. Auction admission is free and the public is cordially invited to attend and join in the bidding. For a complete list of auction consignment rules, call or write the address below. Resurrection Center, located at 449 Broad Street in Nashua features plenty of free parking, a catering service, wheelchair access, clean restrooms, air conditioning and space for up to 90 Swap Meet tables. To reach Resurrection Center, from all points take Rt. 3, Exit 6: **Traveling North:** Turn left at the light onto Rt. 130. Travel 1 ½ miles west to Resurrection Center. **Traveling South:** Turn right at the light onto Rt. 130. Travel 1 ½ miles west to Resurrection Center.

Whether you are a serious collector or just a novice, you will enjoy this day-long opportunity to see hundreds of radios and TV's under one roof. Be sure to mark your calendar for this exciting New England Antique Radio Club event!

For more information about the Swap

Meet, Auction consignment rules or membership in the New England Antique Radio Club, call or write: NEARC, 422 Day Street, Manchester, NH 03104. (603) 623-8996.

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 David Preston, Portland, OR
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RADIO: AS I EXPERIENCED IT The Great Depression

By Bill Hoy

Something written near the end of the first article may have caused a misunderstanding in the reader's mind. When I wrote that "Alignment" was on the customer's bill, I should have said alignment was on each customer's bill; it was performed as a matter-of-course on all sets repaired, not just those where the trimmers had been tampered with. Now that I may have cleared that up a little bit, on with the saga.

Until the fourth quarter of 1929, my shop had all the work I could complete. Then, in November, the country went into The Great Depression. For anyone who, during the Depression itself, was not an adult with someone depending on him or her for food and clothing, it is impossible to understand, or explain, the grief and anguish that swept throughout the nation, just as we cannot understand others' suffering at the death of a family member, unless we have endured that experience. I was paying for the care of two of my sister's children, ages six and eight; it seemed our whole world collapsed around us all. Almost overnight, work in our area fell to one or two days each month. Most of my customers were soon dependent on help from charities, such as the Red Cross and Salvation Army, for food and clothing. I was one of those who spent time sitting on the railroad track waiting for the "relief-truck" to arrive.

We lived in coal mining country, where "scrip" soon became the only means of paying debts; anything one needed was purchased with that scrip. "Scrip", those who have not heard the word should be told, was cardboard or metal tokens issued by each mining company as their form of credit for employees. It was issued in values equal to each U.S. coin, also in one, five, and twenty dollar values. "Scrip" was accepted only in the stores of companies whose name appeared on it. Almost all shopkeepers accepted scrip in order to stay in business. There it was discounted twenty-five cents or more, per dollar, to compensate for its limited value. Each of my contracts with the coal companies in my area contained a clause permitting purchase of any article in their stores, at face value, with scrip. Shop supplies, tubes, parts, car needs, tailored

clothing, even furniture and fuel heating oil, were purchased from those companies with scrip received on repair jobs.

You could buy highest quality products, anything you needed or wanted with that scrip. The only condition --, you could purchase only from those companies who issued that scrip as pay for their employees. Repair parts and other supplies were purchased directly from the distributor warehouse and charged to the company concerned. I was given a copy of the invoice, showing the net price. I would go to each company's office once a month and pay the invoices at the rate of one dollar for each seventy-five cents of invoice total. This was a roundabout way of buying supplies, but it gave me the opportunity to purchase first-class original equipment parts. I was able to order, even by mail, in this manner. I continued to use this method until 1935.

The time was the middle of 1930. Radio manufacturers were suffering the same fate as others. They were going belly-up as fast as the forms could be filed. This again made for a serious problem in securing parts. Failing companies would dispose of all their inventory to some salvage firm that would try to sell everything for which they could find a market, then "deepsix" the remainder. Lafayette Radio in New York began in this way with the name Wholesale Radio. I purchased many beautifully crafted Atwater Kent Walnut console cabinets from Wholesale Radio to use in custom converting table sets for any customers able to pay my very low price for the work.

It is often said that science and technology take a quantum leap forward during each long war. I claim that this statement is more true, for the com-

mon man-in-the-street, during a depression. During a deep depression, everyone is forced, by a desire to stay "alive", to produce better products at a much lower cost. At about this time, parts and set manufacturers sat down to plan ways to save their companies by reducing the costs of building radios. It was decided that costs were greater when companies attempted to manufacture all the components in their sets; that savings could be realized if parts common to most sets were purchased from subcontractors, who spent their time making components which could be used in those different sets. Specifications were drawn for the size-limits for those parts, and color-codes and other requirements were established. Those codes and standards, with changes and additions, are in use today.

Smaller, more reliable capacitors, resistors, and other replacement parts were made and sold at lower prices than ever. Rather than ordering the special original parts, repairmen were able, almost for the first time, to obtain general-purpose components that could be used in almost all sets, in place of failed original parts.

Another result of these austerity measures was the refinement of the electrolytic capacitor as a power-supply filter component in receivers. The Mershon wet electrolytic was being used by Crosley to eliminate the need for "chokes" in their power supplies. Other makers used large "chokes" and small paper filter capacitors; their power supplies often weighed more than an entire Crosley set ... Incidentally, in my estimation, Crosley stayed one long jump ahead of the competition throughout the Depression and until World War II.

Mallory made rapid improvements in the electrolytic capacitor during this

period. By WWII the electrolytic was dry and had very large capacity for its size. It was very reliable too, and low in cost. You could build an entire power supply for little more than the cost of the "chokes" used in earlier sets. The production and use of electrolytic capacitors in lower voltage ratings became common. Manufacturers found they could install an electrodynamic speaker in the set, use its field winding as part of the filter circuit, obtain better sound quality, and do it all for less cost.

NEXT: The Introduction of Screen-Grid Tubes in American Radio

TELEVISION

Dear John:

I have just returned from a trip to the Smithsonian where I attended the premier showing of the exhibition "**Fifty Years of Television**" or television from the New York Worlds' Fair in 1939 to the present.

Several months ago I got a call from Dr. Larry Bird of the Smithsonian. He had seen my name and address in an article in the Chicago Tribune. The museum was planning an exhibition for fifty years of Television and he wanted to borrow some of my old models. This resulted in a visit to my home and he earmarked nine items to be included in the exhibit. I told him that mine were all on shelves for display and that Arnold Chase in W. Hartford, Connecticut has many duplicates that are just collecting dust in a warehouse. I suggested that Arnold should have first choice and mine should be used as fill-ins or ones that he did not have. Arnold has been a very aggressive collector and has duplicate models. He wanted the R.C.A. TRK12 which was incased in glass and displayed to the public at the New

York Fair in 1939. R.C.A.'s first four models were introduced at this time to the public. Arnold finally located the TRK12 in Israel, went there and got it. When he shipped it back to the U.S. the glass was broken during the trip. The museum replaced the glass and displayed it in the center of the group at the exhibition where it is attracting a lot of attention.

Danny Gustafason also contributed some models. He, with his father, runs an advertising agency in Chicago. His collection is on display in his home and it is a very fine collection.

The three of us - Arnold, Danny and myself, were invited and visited the Museum of American History on the 18th of this month for the premier showing of the collection. Arnold had his wife and two of his children and was spending some time sight-seeing in Washington.

I thought this first showing was to be a special selection of T.V. collectors. However, I was wrong as there were well over a hundred there representing every phase of television, which I found out from talking to some of them. There were many tables of all kinds of food and drinks and it was quite a show.

Washington is not an easy place to get into by any means of transportation, and just as hard to get out of again. The Willard Hotel where my wife and I stayed (one night) is quite unique. They had had every President since Pierce stay there and Wilson formulated some of the plans for the League of Nations here. Our room was almost perfect and reminded me of old times. A big wooden armoire about 8 ft. tall and 4 ft. wide looked as though if you opened the doors an extra bed would start coming down. Instead, the top part has a T.V. on a shelf that pulled out and turned from side to side. When I finally discovered

how to turn it on, "Welcome Kenneth McIntosh" flashed on the screen. By pressing a certain button you could see your current bill flash on the screen - (\$286. for one night - without food.) Rather expensive!!

I visited the Museum of American History many years ago. When I got around to looking for T.V. receivers I saw one Hallicrafter - 7" in one window and an R.C.A. TRK 5 upstairs beside a door going to Elliott Sivawitz's office. I pushed a button on the wall next to it and it showed a series of pictures about the Smithsonian. I asked Elliott if it had original inside circuits and he said they had tried, but had to replace the circuits to produce what they wanted to show visitors. Elliott did show me some sets downstairs in the storeroom. Here were all the Dumont models that had been donated when Dumont closed their museum. Hope you get a chance to see the exhibition which will be on display for a year.

Sincerely,
Ken McIntosh
April 24, 1989



Mr. Drake

You printed my letter about a mystery object in Vol. 16 No. 4 of the ARCA Gazette. I received two answers in the mail. The first one I enclose a photocopy (of). The second one from Dan Healy of Classic Radio Service in Woodacre, California, said it looks like a power supply for an electric fence, so there is agreement.

F. Butterfield

Dear Frederick,

Just saw the new issue of ARCA magazine and I will tell you what you found. I'll never forget it. It is a device to power an electric fence. One farmer in this area bought one for his turkey farm. He installed it and electrocuted about 800 turkeys. Later a law came out which said that continuous voltage could not be used. The farmer tried to sue the manufacturer of the device, but at the time he bought it there was no law.

Hope that this helps you.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Russell

Dear John,

I thought this might be of interest to our membership.

Regards,
Les Rayner

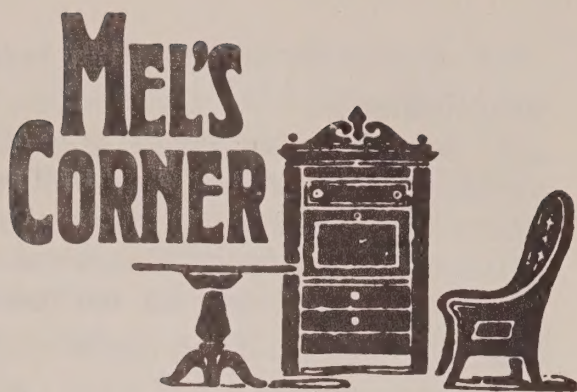
A NEW RADIO TRADE DIRECTORY

Something new is just off the press ... "The radio Trade Directory of 1925."

A classified trade directory put together by a well-known publisher back then.

This directory contains 192 pages and is well-illustrated listing the radio and allied industries' names and addresses that manufactured everything used in connection with radio transmitters and receivers.

With this book as reference you'll be able to relate to your hobby with whatever you collect whether it be tubes, crystal sets, headphones, speakers, radio kits or wired insulators, glass or porcelain, and much more. It was a time when radio was a magic word and the start of what we have today. The directory is available from Antique Electronics Supply, Tempe, Arizona, at \$8.95 plus handling.



MELS CORNER

When we go to these various radio meets around the country these days - we meet interesting people-both young and old. All with their special interests in various categories of radio equipment. It is fun to see the older folks wandering around looking for wireless gear -- Grebe's- Paragon-Paragon--De Forest-Clapp- Eastham--mostly the early gear of those times. But now--how times have changed!! Ever notice how this younger generation flock to the tables to see the "plastics", the "cathedrals" a Mickey Mouse-or a Sparton blue mirror set---and promptly go off the deep end with their buying!! Just a matter of generation!! We like what we well remember in days of yore----

On the arrival of a car loaded to the hilt- the excitement begins!! The owner starts pulling stuff out of his car or wagon as the crowd elbows in to see what's there??? And--in minutes the offers come fast and furious--while the owner tries to back off-- trying to remember what's what??? We see a tendency by owners to hold back some of their rare items hoping for a trade to update their collection. It's not a question of selling then but looking around for more desirable items. As the crowd thins out a bit--that's when the dicker-ing begins!!

It is important to know what the owner has to offer-and especially its history. Without that--here is where bargains arise! A a recent meet for example- a fellow showed up with an especially

rare item of equipment -and having no idea of what it was -other than its fine appearance - it was immediately grabbed up for a fraction of its value! It pays to know your equipment - and especially to know the background as much as possible.

Many collectors find sets that are missing crucial parts--or have been butchered for modifications. These parts in many cases eventually show up. It's just a question of time and a bit of patience to find them at meets and in various publications. The fun is in restoring them to as near original as possible! Sometimes it's a puzzle.-- You just have to find the answer.

There is a wealth of material in old radio magazines and early books that you just don't want to stick away forgotten. Occasionally - look through these items-and it is surprising how our memories suddenly make something click!! The annual conference at Canandaigua each year on radio equipment results in a gold mine of information.

How thankful we are to have some dedicated historians who delve into the details of past developments -and take the time to write articles and even books on their findings. Without this information our hobby would be lost! We could name a number of fellows -- but most of you already are acquainted with them and their activities.

How interesting it is to note the ever increasing number of new members joining our radio hobby these days!! Very few, if any, familiar names appear on these lists - as we continue to grow. Old equipment is being dug out of many sources unheard of. Each year our flea markets show up with many surprises as to what is found. So our radio hobby goes on and on ----LOTS A LUCK!!!

Cheerio!!

Mel

hallicrafters

THE HALLICRAFTERS STORY

A fascinating account of one of Amateur Radio's great names. How it grew, what it produced and its demise in today's Amateur market. But is Hallicrafters really dead? Of course not.

prologue

The unmarked car pulled up in front of the small factory. It was a sultry, humid day in Chicago in August of 1941. The driver got out of the vehicle and strode purposefully into the office of the little company. He displayed his credentials and, after a short pause, was ushered into the office of the president.

The president, young Bill Halligan (W9WZE, now W9AC), greeted his visitor and quickly found what was wanted.

"Mr. Halligan", the visitor said in self-assured voice, "we need an HT-4 transmitter."

Bill Halligan shook his head. "I'm sorry, we haven't one in the place. And we don't even have one in production now."

The visitor looked around the office and glanced out the door to the small production line.

"How about a used one, or one that you keep for test purposes?"

"None available at all, sorry."

The visitor leaned forward across Bill's desk. "Do any of your dealers have one? I mean anywhere in the U.S.? How about sending some telegrams?"

Bill Halligan produced a wad of letters and telegrams from his desk. "It's the other way around," he replied. "They're all cleaned out and are asking for more HT-4 transmitters."

"You don't seem to understand," said the visitor. "This is important and urgent. We must have a transmitter. At once. It is of the highest priority!"

Bill sighed. "Well, how about my HT-4 transmitter? It's at home in my shack..."

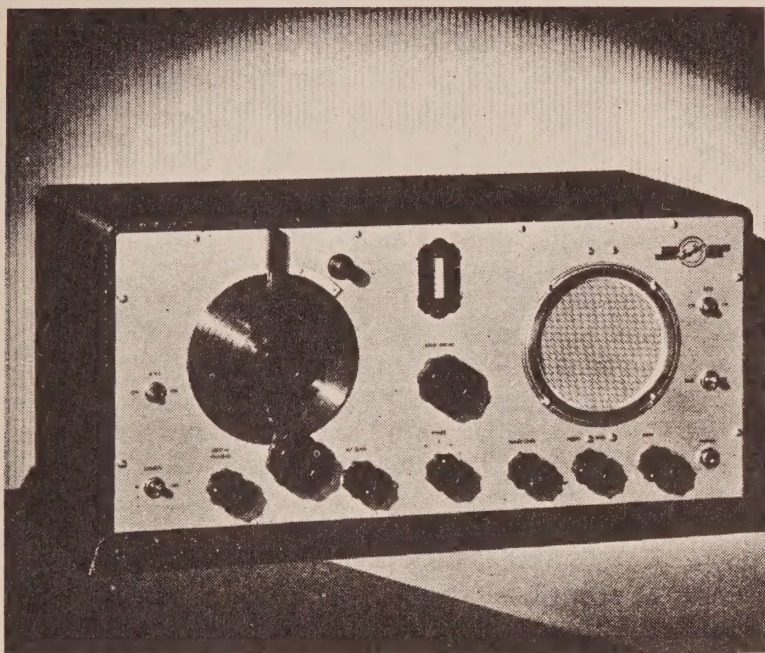
The transmitter was immediately brought to the factory, an old red brick building on Indiana Avenue. That weekend Bill and an engineer went over the HT-4, checking it out, and on Sunday an Army bomber roared away from Chicago Municipal airport with W9WZE's supreme sacrifice aboard — his own personal HT-4 transmitter. Not even the persistent, close-lipped visitor knew of its ultimate destination, but it was bound for a rendezvous with history. (see epilogue).

Bill Halligan received an early start in the world of wireless. As a high-school student before World War I, his

The whole idea caught fire like wet leaves. It was 1933, and hams were broke too. No one seemed interested in the simple Sky Rider receiver that Bill had designed. Another serious problem was also at hand: The little company was unable to secure a license to manufacture sets under patents held by the Radio corporation of America. RCA was virtually a patent pool, holding patents on almost every basic radio circuit that existed. True, a licensing system existed for those well-heeled outfits that could pay the price. But it was too high for Hallicrafters. The company went into low gear, and Bill Halligan had to go to Silver-Marshall Company — a licensed competitor — to produce sets of his own design.

"I've got to get an RCA license of my own," Bill told his wife. He knew that

Schematic of the Super-Skyrider, the first Hallicrafters short-wave superheterodyne receiver.



the SUPER SKYRIDER is COMPLETE!

security and a future depended upon an RCA license. And he was going to get one.

harsh days in Chicago

Difficult days were ahead for Bill Halligan. He finally heard of a new, ultra-modern radio factory in Marion, Indiana, which was closing for lack of business. It had an RCA license! Hurrying to Marion, he sold the Hallicrafters' idea to the owner. Shortly thereafter the Hallicrafters' name appeared above the factory entrance. But the two partners lacked the money to produce anything, and the grim specter of bankruptcy loomed on the horizon. Both partners were deep in debt. Bill now had the RCA license, but he could do nothing with it!

By one of those fascinating turns of fate, Bill Halligan chanced to meet Ray Durst. Ray was the credit manager for the Ecophone Company in Chicago, which had a large account with the plant in Marion. Ray felt that if he could collect the debt Marion owed to Ecophone, he might not be fired by that company.

Bill and Ray got together to see if they could solve their immediate problems. The upshot of these discussions was

that Bill and his partner agreed to dissolve their contract. Bill and Ray then went to Chicago. There Bill met Clem Wade, the inventor of the Eskimo Pie ice cream stick and sole owner of the Ecophone Company's equally frozen assets. Would it be possible that some kind of agreement could be reached whereby Bill could make use of the facilities at Ecophone? Perhaps some kind of cross-licensing?

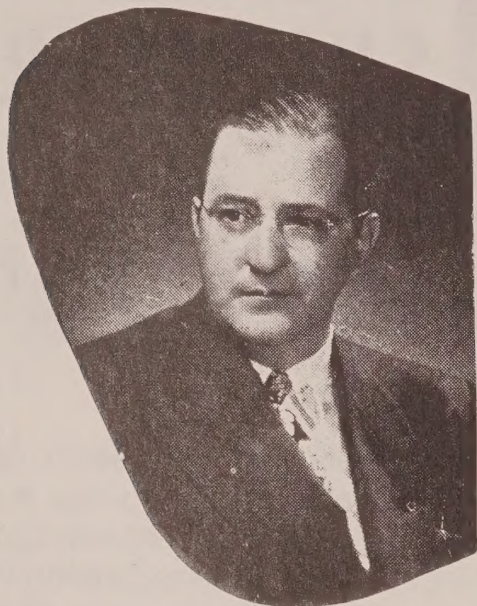
Yes, it was possible. After a tangle of lawsuits with creditors, contracts, licensing agreements, incorporations, and expensive paperwork, Bill Halligan and Ray Durst emerged with a company. Now, perhaps the Hallicrafters dream would come true.

before Pearl Harbor

Hallicrafters was in business. It made radio receivers and phonograph combinations for Capehart, Magnavox, and other Chicago radio companies. And it wasn't long before handmade Hallicrafters shortwave receivers were being made. At long last, Bill Halligan had his factory and was in the ham radio business.

Hallicrafters entered the ham market like a rocket. The Super Sky Rider receiver was announced in early 1935.

Modern marketing techniques and joint advertising with distributors was tried — a new approach to the staid market of Amateur Radio. Bill Halligan's earlier work as a manufacturer's agent began to pay off.



Bill Halligan

Within months Hallicrafters was a household word in Amateur Radio. Hallicrafters fielded a whole series of radio receivers and probably had more models on the market than all the other receiver manufacturers combined. Yearly model changes were made, high-style cabinets and attractive panels were used, and the massive volume of receiver production held the costs low — a Hallicrafters receiver existed for every purse.*

the Hallicrafters HT-4 transmitter

"Why not build a modern ham transmitter," Bill Halligan asked himself one day. With the aid of Bob Samuelson, the design for a powerful ham transmitter was drawn up - target price: less than \$800.00. Bill hoped that the Radio Amateur, now accustomed to buying a receiver rather than building it himself, might be ready for a factory-assembled rig.

The ham transmitter of 1938 was a sight to behold. The ham kilowatt then was a massive and awesome contrivance that towered in one or more relay racks to a height of six or seven feet — and with all the mobility of a grand piano.

Starting with a typical high-power transmitter design, Bob Samuelson and his engineers spent months over wiring diagrams and layouts, reducing the design to a height of 37 inches and decreasing the conventional seven power supplies to three. Complex switching circuits were simplified. Plug-in tuning assemblies were designed. The heavy steel relay rack construction was scrapped for a light steel frame using the "stressed skin" technique developed for airplane fuselages. Transmitter weight was reduced from over a ton to about 500 pounds! The final design was a 450-watt phone and CW transmitter that contained no aluminum. It was made of automobile sheet steel, and, with the exception of the heavy transformers, it was easy and inexpensive to produce.

mass production — a real problem

Bill Halligan had no way of knowing that a war was about to start and that his HT-4 transmitter would be a mainstay for World War II communications. After all, he had built only twenty of them by the fall of 1940. He was soon to be surprised. Suppose America got into the war? Would everyone be interested in the HT-4? Could production be stepped up to the unheard-of rate of one a day? What if someone wanted more?

Less than a year later these questions became real when a delegation of French and British purchasing com-

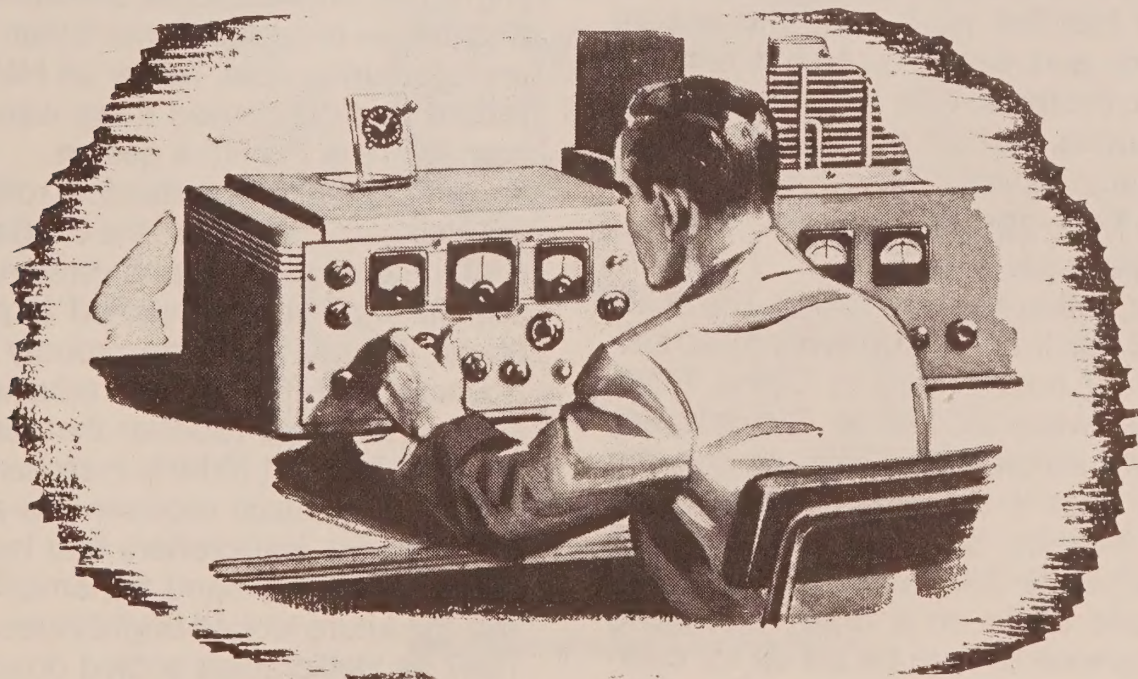
**I still have my Hallicrafters S20R, purchased with paper-route money in the 1940s. Wouldn't sell it for any price. Editor, W6NIF.*

missioners ordered more transmitters than Bill Halligan had built in the eight years his company had been in existence. Deliveries were a matter of life and death. And how about SX-28 receivers? Did he need money? Would cash in advance help speed things up? The heat was on. It was quite a shock to realize that Hallicrafters had a sold-out factory. Now instead of selling people on the idea of buying Hallicrafters radio equipment, Bill had to sell other people on making them! Hallicrafters was well on the road by the time of Pearl Harbor. Production

was the all-absorbing passion. The factory was geared to devise faster, more efficient assembly techniques. Three shifts were started, and by the fall of 1941, a steady stream of radio equipment was being shipped to the British (who had taken over the French commitments). On the morning of December 7, 1941, Colonel George H. Sparhawk of the Army Air Force telephoned Bill Halligan and told him that the Armed Forces were commandeering the British transmitters and that they were to be packed and out of Chicago by air that very night.

Model SX-28A

***The Standard
of Comparison***



the war years **the SCR-299 is born**

Hitler's stunning victories in Poland, France, and the low countries revealed his secret weapons: speed, fluidity of attack, and instantaneous communications. The U.S. military service saw the need for a mobile radio station capable of communications over a wide range of frequencies, even while en route over rough terrain. The rough design for such a communications center was worked out at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, under the direction of Colonel Roger B. Colton. Known as the SCR-299, the system consisted of a 1½-ton panel body truck with four wheel drive coupled to a heavy-duty, two-wheel trailer. In the truck body was a complete short wave receiver (BC-342s). In the trailer was a gasoline-driven generator that was used to supply power for the mobile station. A rugged whip antenna was mounted onto the truck.

After long deliberation and tests, the ham-type HT-4 transmitter was selected for the SCR-299 communications truck. It was chosen because of its simplicity, small size, light weight, and ruggedness. And it had good, clear audio. Special military tuning units and handles were added to ensure quick and easy equipment removal from the truck. With some other minor changes, the ham rig was just right for military service.

the SCR-299 in military service

Production was now rolling. The SCR-299 was in service on every Allied battlefield from Alaska to China. SCR-299s were airlifted to Guadalcanal, North Africa, and Sicily. Among the first units to roll ashore at Normandy on invasion day was the SCR-299. Each SCR-299 carried a mile of telephone cable on a drum, permitting telephone lines to be set up for communications with distant areas. This

enhanced the value of the SCR-299 where mobility was limited.

the Sebold incident

Finally, there was the celebrated case in which a German-American citizen, William Sebold, helped the FBI to apprehend a ring of Nazi spies. Sebold had returned to Germany to visit his family in 1939. Through coercion and intimidation, Sebold was forced to go through the great spy school in Hamburg. When he left Germany in 1940, Sebold had instructions and authority to establish a short wave radio station in the United States for direct communications to Hamburg. Upon arriving in New York, Sebold went straight to the FBI, which helped him establish a secret station on Long Island, equipped with a Hallicrafters HT-4 transmitter. He did a fine job of putting carefully doctored misinformation into the hands of the spy chiefs at Hamburg.

after the war

By 1946 the war was over, and Hallicrafters turned to the future. The Hallicrafters transmitter (known by the military label BC-610, part of SCR-299) was being released on the surplus market for as little as \$500, complete with tubes, antenna tuner, and speech amplifier — only slightly more than the manufacturing cost. As far as Hallicrafters was concerned there was no ham future in the HT-4 design.

To get peacetime production rolling, Bill Halligan brought out the S-38 and S-40 receivers (revamped versions of pre-war models) and started to plan ahead. By late 1946 he proudly announced the SX-42, an advanced superheterodyne receiver that tuned from 540 kHz to 110 MHz in six bands. A simple television receiver was also in the works. Hallicrafters had heard about single sideband transmission. Yes, the future looked bright indeed in 1947 as Hallicrafters settled down to profitable, post-war production of

modern radio equipment. They had the know-how.

More than fifty thousand SX-28 receivers had been built, and more than eighteen thousand SCR-299 (BC-610) transmitters had been built, as well as nearly ten thousand S-29 receivers. And now single sideband, television, and high-fidelity fm lay ahead, as well as CB radio on the distant horizon. The world looked good to Bill Halligan in 1947. He had really arrived in style!

The problem was conversion from a war-time to a peace-time industry. Hallicrafters was spread over fourteen plants, some as small as a garage. The first matter of business was to consolidate operations. A new facility was built, and two other locations retained for growth.

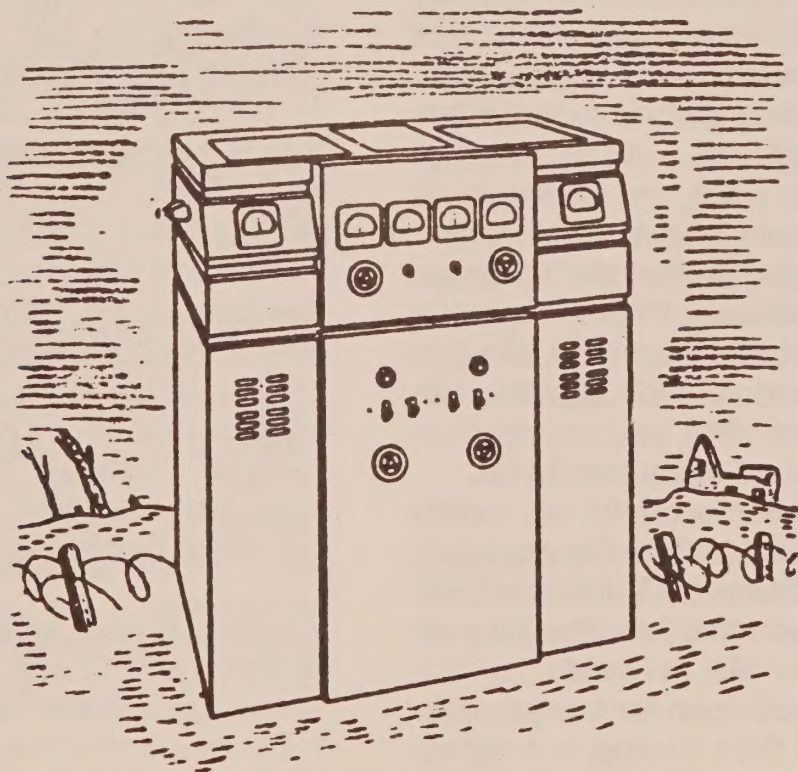
Returning GIs remembered the name Hallicrafters. The company decided that, in addition to building ham gear, they would expand into the entertainment field. Television receivers, hi-fi

equipment, and the Lowery organ were built by Hallicrafters. The company continued to build military electronic gear, particularly counter-measure equipment.

But all was not smooth sailing. The home radio and television market was cutthroat. By 1956 Bill Halligan was fed up. He couldn't compete and retain the high standards he'd set for Hallicrafters. The crisis of this uncomfortable situation was reached in the fall of 1957, when Bill Halligan sold out to the Penn-Texas Company. While Bill gave up ownership of Hallicrafters, he still retained management. This operation was even less satisfactory, and late the following year Bill bought the company back from Penn-Texas. Management of Hallicrafters was turned over to Bill's son, Bob Halligan. Bill remained chairman of the board.

epilogue

Over the years, Hallicrafters con-



The Hallicrafters HT-4 transmitter.



Military Truck

tributed many firsts to the electronics industry and to Amateur Radio. Some of these were the first use of silk screened panels in place of expensive engraving, the use of smooth paint in place of black-crackle paint, the calibrated S meter, the dual-diversity receiver, the automatic noise limiter, the temperature - compensated, high - frequency oscillator, the battery-portable, all-wave receiver, the dual AVC system, the bridge-T notch filter, and commercial production of an electronic keyer.

W9AC is still active on the air, mostly on 7 and 14 MHz CW. On occasion Bill can be found on 20 meter SSB. During the summer months he's on the air from W4AK in Florida.

Keep your ears open for this pioneering Amateur! Bill's interest in Amateur Radio is as keen as ever. Even though

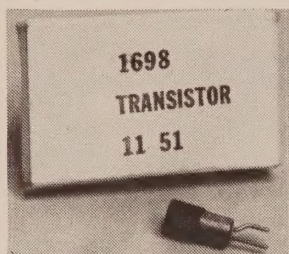
he's not manufacturing ham radio equipment, he can still use it along with the best of today's operators.

In 1950, J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI told Bill Halligan that the HT-4 transmitter Bill had sold to the FBI agent in August, 1941, had been flown to Pearl Harbor and that it had been installed in the hills above Honolulu. It was the only active communications link to the mainland during the Japanese attack, because saboteurs had cut telephone lines in Honolulu. The old W9WZE transmitter served its country well during those painful hours of need.

This article was published in the November, 1979, issue of HAM RADIO. The magazine and the author, William I. Orr of Menlo Park, California, have given us permission to use the article in this issue of the Gazette.

TRANSISTOR TOPICS

By ROSS SMITH



BOYS and REFLEX CIRCUIT TRANSISTOR SETS of the LATE 1950's and EARLY 1960's by Serge Krauss

The Japanese produced several brands of "BOYS RADIOS" all using reflex circuitry. It is interesting to note that four or more totally different case and circuit board designs, with many identical components, were tooled for a rather limited market. The quality of these sets is much superior to domestic models produced for the youth market. In fact, they approach the quality and appearance of the beautiful Japanese pocket radios of the same era.

The marking "BOYS RADIO" is present on many of these Japanese transistor radios. One wonders why girls were seemingly excluded.

The sets used two transistors, the first for an RF amplifier followed by a broad band RF transformer into a diode detector. The diode detector is filtered and fed back through the first transistor as a audio amplifier. The second transistor is a second stage audio amplifier driving the loudspeaker. They all use an interstage audio transformer. Some place it between the

diode detector and the first audio stage and others place it between the audio stages. It is difficult to determine any difference in performance between the transformer placements.

Some sets have an accessory telescoping antenna which screws into a tapped flush boss. These sets have leather carrying cases which provide stowage for the necessary antenna. Reception comparison with the antenna addition questions its value. Most of the BOYS RADIOS have jacks for ear-piece listening and this accessory probably was supplied with the set.

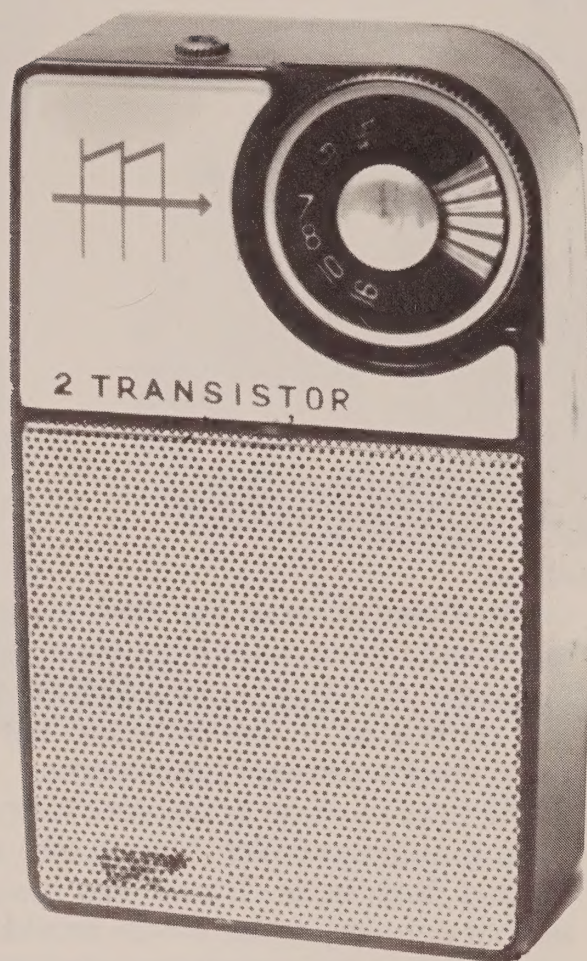
These sets are for local reception and the single tuned circuit lacks selectivity so that interference between stations is usually present. The drain on the 9 volt battery is modest, giving a fairly good battery life.

S.K.

June, 1989

Please send articles and/or pictures for TRANSISTOR TOPICS to:
Ross Smith, 1133 Strong Ave.,
Elkhart, IN 46514

*Pictures are courtesy of CTS-Turner Museum, by Joe Carlton.
Radio sets belong to Serge Krauss.*

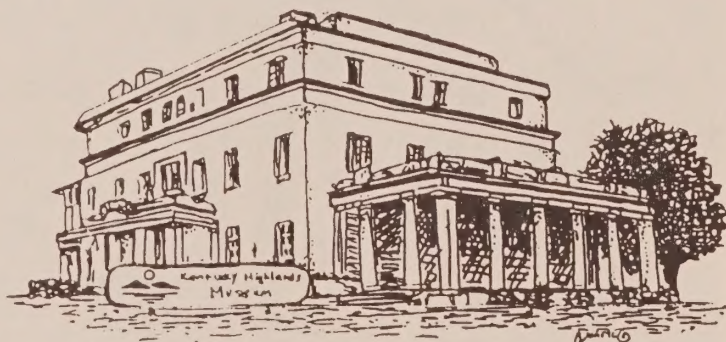




Kentucky Highlands Museum Antique Radio Exhibit ARCA's Pride and Joy!

By: Clyde Trivette and Geoff Bourne

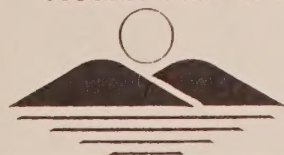
The Antique Radio Club of America, Inc., West Virginia Chapter, is proud to be a part of the Kentucky Highlands Museum Radio Exhibit. As the sole sponsor of this excellent display, we solicit and appreciate your contributions and visits.



Please note the hours of operation, and if you are going to be in the region, be sure your itinerary includes a visit to this interesting exhibit.

Also, each year, from the second week in November to December 23rd, the Museum presents an excellent Christmas program including "The Toys of Yesteryear".

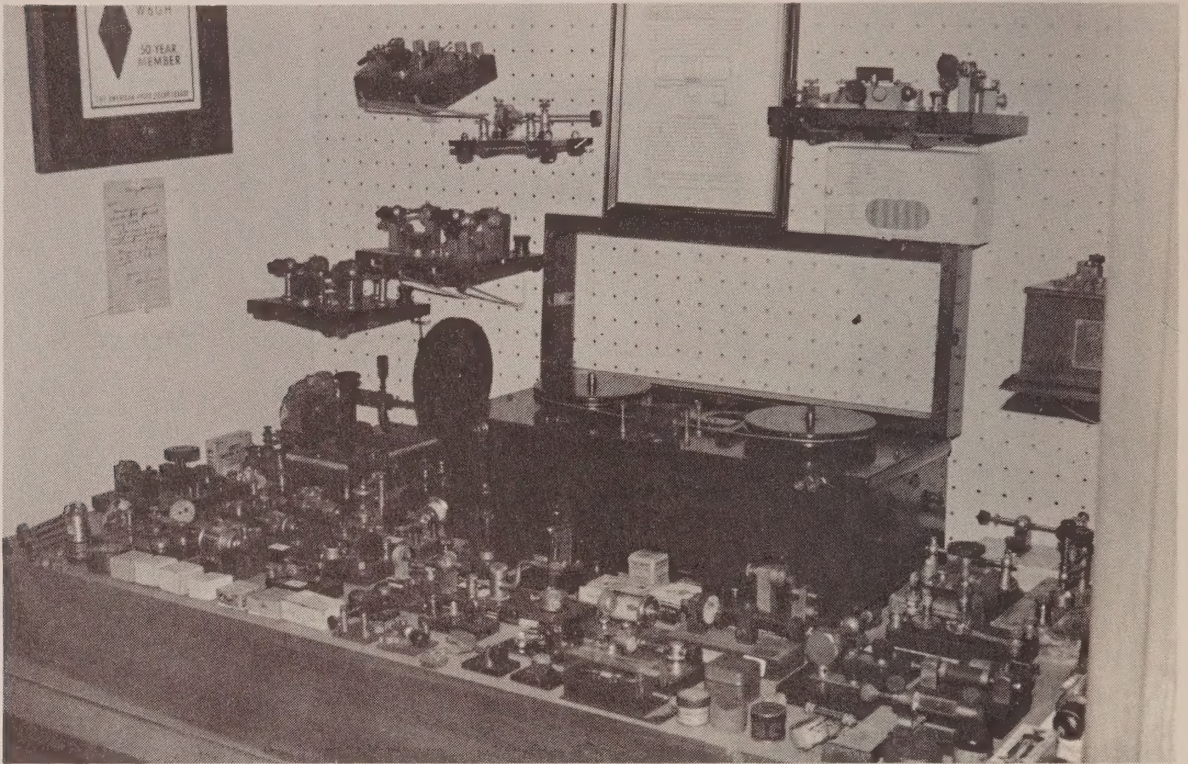
Hours: Tue. to Sat. 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. — Sun. 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.



KENTUCKY HIGHLANDS MUSEUM SOCIETY

1516 BATH AVENUE — ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101 — 606 329-8888

NEW ENGLAND WIRELESS



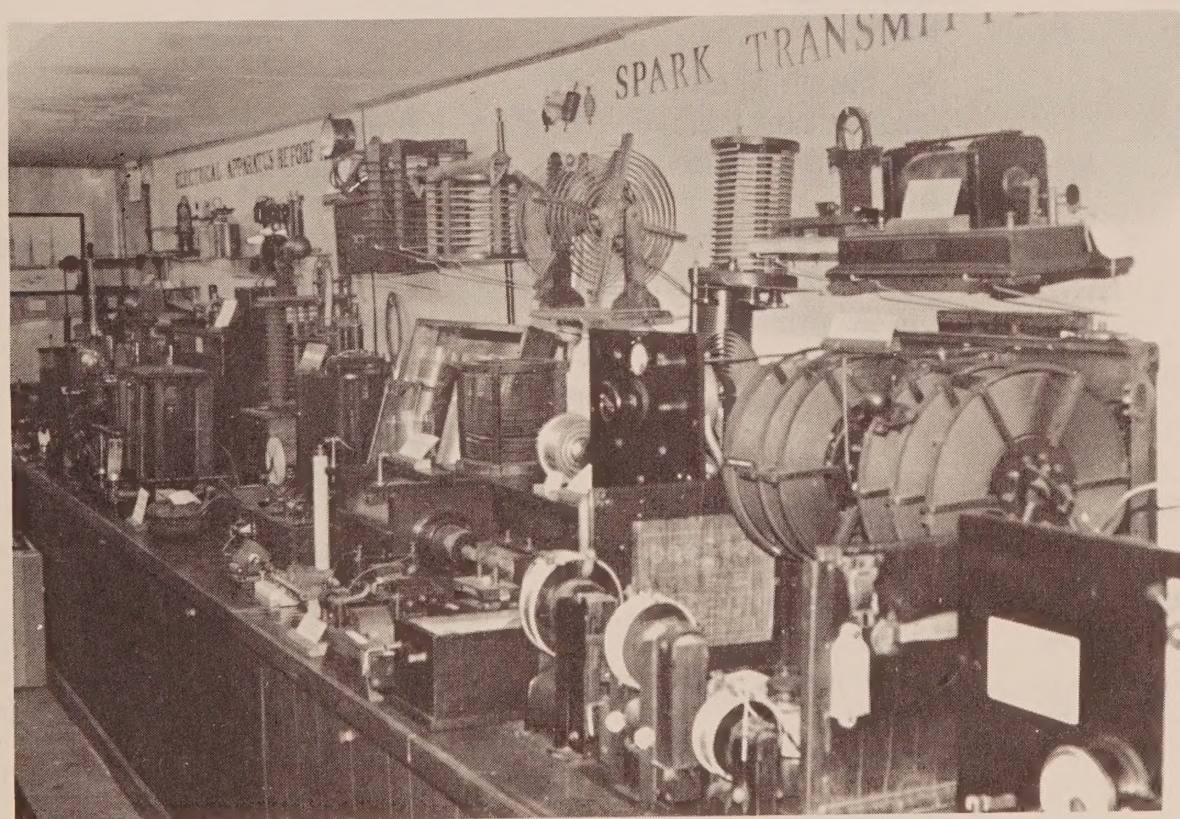
N.E. Museum of Wireless and Steam



This group completes its tour of the N.E. Museum of Wireless and Steam



Mr. & Mrs. Bob Merrium, Pres. Lloyd McIntyre & Museum Guide



Display New England Museum of Wireless & Steam

**OLD EQUIPMENT CONTEST
ARCA SPRING MEET, 1989
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT**

Class	1.	Crystal or Coherer Receivers	
	A.	Factory Made	
		1st. John M. Williams	Knott Coherer Rec /Spark Transmitter
		2nd. Merrill Bancroft	Pandora Crystal Set
	B.	Homemade	
		1st. Robert Enemark	Breadboard Crystal Set
Class	2	Regenerative Receivers	
		1st. Bob Murray	CGE Model 93
		2nd. Ron Fribie	Haynes Tuner/Clapp Eastham
		2nd. Geoffrey Bourne	Kennedy V
		3rd. Stephen Imms	Haynes-DXW/2 Audio Stages
Class	3	Super Hets	
	A.	Battery	
		1st. Ralph Muchow	WE 4A
		2nd. Robert Betz	Presley Super Het
		3rd. Charles Rhodes	Radiloa 26
	B.	AC.	
		1st. Joe Koester	Zenith 12S-232 (Walton Set)
		2nd. Robert Enemark	Silvertone Commun. Rec.
		3rd. Merrill Bancroft	AK 206
Class	4	TRF Sets	
		1st John Williams	1926 Neutrowound
		2nd. Ralph Thorn	Crosley Bandbox
Class	5	Radio Advertising	
		1st. Robert Trauterman	1920's Advertisements
Class	6	Speakers	
	A.	Plane Jane	
		1st. John M. Williams	Liberty Bell Horn
	B.	Exotic	
		1st. Geoffrey Bourne	Madera Horn 1922

**OLD EQUIPMENT CONTEST
ARCA SPRING MEET, 1989
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT**

Class	7 A.	All American Fives (AC - DC)	
		Wood Cabinets	
		1st. Leah Trauterman	Emerson
		Bright Phenolics	
		1st Joe Koester	Zenith Bakelite Chassis
		Novelty	
		1st Joe Koester	Radiovision
Class	8	New England Manufacturers	
		1st Lauren Peckam	Connecticut Jr-3
		2nd Merrill Bancroft	AC Gilbert #4018
Class	9	N.Y. Manufacturers	
		1st. Ralph Muchow	DeForest Sub Radio
		2nd. Merrill Bancroft	Grebe CR-5
Class	10	Books	
		1st. Marsha & Jerry Simpkin	Radio Books on the Sea
		2nd Alan Anderson	Radio Personalities
Class	12	Transistor Sets	
		1st Walter Johns	3 Philcos
		2nd. Marty Bunis	Zenith Transoceanic Royal 1000
Peoples Choice Award		Joe Koester	Zenith 12S-232 Walton
Best of Show		Ralph Muchow	DeForest Sub Receiver
Houck Award		Ralph Muchow	WE 4A

Judges: Jim Troe, Jim Kreuser, Ed Lyon, Geoffrey Bourne, Ralph Williams

Some Of The Prize Winners



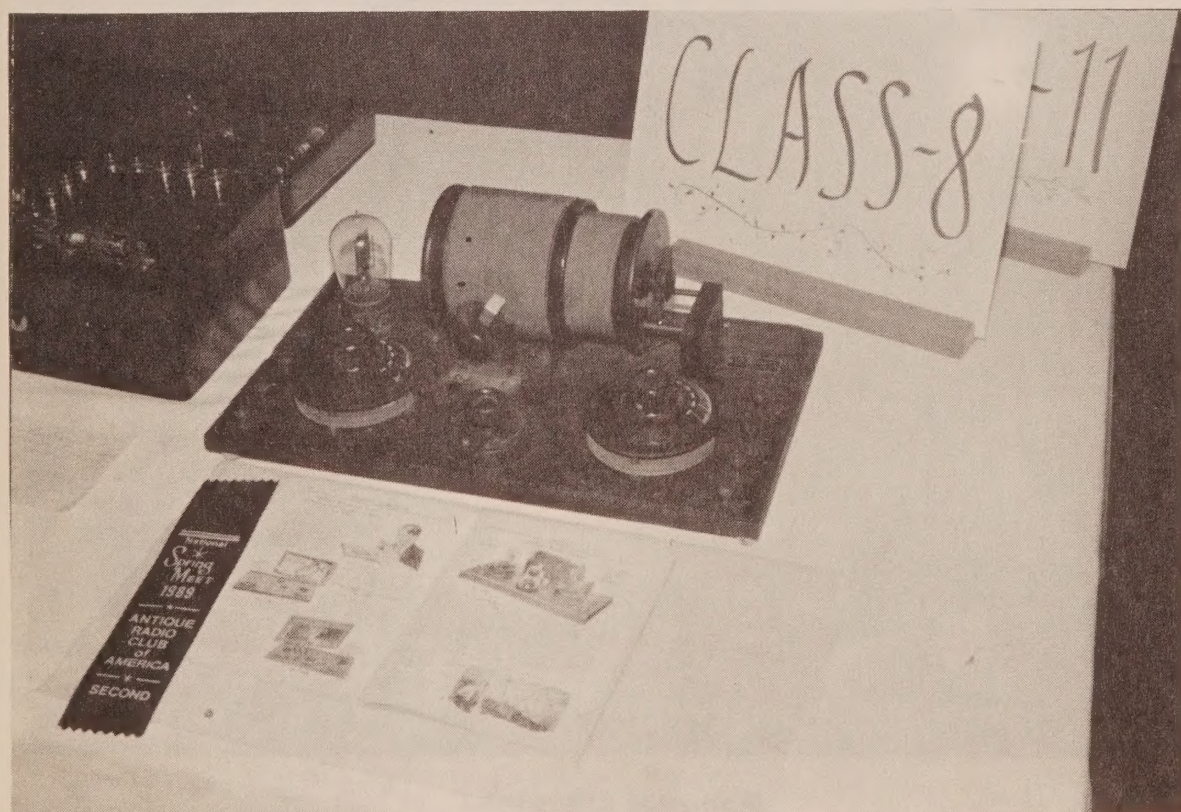
Contest Entry



Contest Entry ARCA 1989

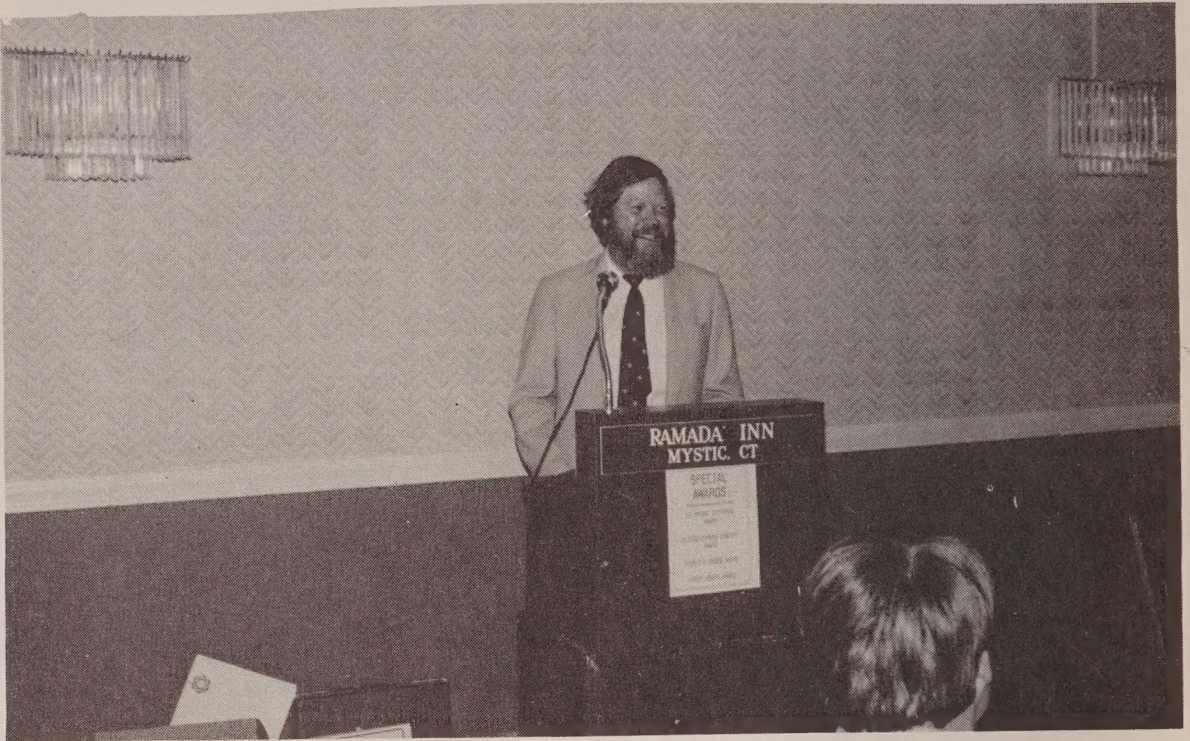


*Peoples Choice Winner
Joe Koster's Walton's Zenith*



Very rare, A.C. Gilbert 1923 1 tube set

The Festivities



John Terrey addressess banquet



Banquet Attendees



Gilbert Houck presents the Harry Houck award to Ralph Muchow

Ye Old SWAMP SHOP

FOR SALE:

1931 Stewart Warner #102A cathedral \$225.00; Crosley Fiver
1933 #148 tombstone \$80.00; 1946
Bendix #0526F brown bakelite
(pg. 71 Collins book) \$45.00; 1951
Capehart #T-30 brown plastic
\$42.00; early 1953 Crosley #E10-BE
royal metallic blue enameled
bakelite \$80.00; 1946 Sonora 5 tube
ivory bakelite \$25.00; 1950's Zenith
#1615 F green bakelite \$40.00;
Sound, Inc. 1947 #522 wedgewood
blue & white metal \$53.00; Grain Belt
Scoreboard 1950's \$45.00.
Long SASE: Ripley,
Box 9374
N. St. Paul MN 55109

WANTED:

Thomas E. Clark Catalogues/
Literature. Marconi Fleming Valve
Receiver. V24 sets.
Richard Groshong
6604 Kent Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
(319)377-3144

FOR SALE:

WD-11 replacements NOS WE-215-
A (VT-5) on WD-11 base. Plug right in -
electrically identical \$15.00 plus
Postage (\$1.00)

WANTED:

Philco Farm Set 37-623 or 624.
Radiola RS, I, VI.
Clapp-Eastham HZ ampl.
Charles Rhodes
64 South River Road
Edgewater, MD, 21037

FOR SALE/TRADE:

Wurlitzer S-7 cathedral \$300, AK-84
grill \$15.00, Grunow teledial speaker
\$8.00, Zenith blackdial tombstone
\$45.00, 1L6 tubes NIB \$10.00 ea., 32
volt vibrator \$15.00, Super Wasp
coils - original box \$35.00, "Talking
tape antenna" - original box \$10.00,
Telefunkens - "Gavotte" - \$45.00 and
"Hellgo" - \$75.00 - both very nice,
Large Philco model 42-350 with old
fm band \$75.00, EverReady model 20
chassis \$12.00, Many 1940 to
1955 German sets inquire.

WANTED:

Pilot Tombstones and Cathedrals,
and Pre-WWII German sets.
Bill Moore
1005 Fieldstone Ct.,
HSV AL 35803
205-880-1207

WANTED:

Logic module from vacuum tube
digital computer; DeForest F-5
cabinet, one tuning knob assembly;
Radiola 44/46 knobs; Bremer-Tully
Counterphase 6 tuning condensers.
Keith Gobeski
1144 E. St.
Joseph Highway
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

WANTED:

One (1) Atwater Kent Model 'R' horn speaker. Must be in physically good condition (except for finish). With or without driver.

Sam W. Wrenn

2314 Seminole #1207

Arlington, TX 76010

WANTED:

Am looking for a Federal 61 receiver to add to my collection. Please send condition of what you may have to offer.

Bill Wade

6517-14th Avenue

Prospect Park, PENN 19076

WANTED:

Working chassis for a Philco model 60. Also looking for grill cloth for Philco model 44B and knobs.

Chuck Pagano

27 Skinner Rd.

Kensington, CT 06037

203-828-0660

WANTED:

E.H. Scott & McMurdo sets, chassis, cabinets, literature, Tacscher sound boards.

Mike Greene

19113 Alpenglow Ln.

Brookeville, MD 20833

301-774-3203 (anytime)

FOR SALE:

Radiola Model V - with original detector on there - Has bottom wood base and top wood cover restored working order. Reasonable offer accepted. Can be seen in my Antique Radio Booth at Renningers Flea Market

Rt. 272 Adamstown, PA on
Sundays. Joe Horvath
531 Nutt Road
Phoenixville, PA
215-933-0203

WANTED:

Looking for a Radiola VII or VII-B - Have a few rare DeForest tubes available for trades if necessary.

Also any Atwater Kent advertising signs or early material that relates.

Ray Thompson

7422 Cherry Tree Dr.

Fulton, Maryland 20759

FOR SALE:

Send a SASE for my latest list of early radio catalogues of prominent manufacturers. Clearly illustrated with specification data. Will be attending the AWA meet in October at Canandaigua, New York - with some exceptionally rare items of equipment. See you there!!

Arthur W. Aseltine

345 Glenwood St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

BUY/SELL:

Old TV sets - parts components - many items on hand here. Always looking for the really rare items. Let me know what you find and what's available.

Harry Poster

P.O. Box 1883

So. Hack, New Jersey

07606

FOR SALE:

AK Breadboard Season now under way! A load of Atwater Kent components showed up in the ARCA Mystic flea market. They are still around and more parts showing up! I have the mounting boards to original specifications now available in various sizes - finished - or unfinished - at reasonable cost. Let me know your wants on AK Boards or parts. Original or replic items available.

Lawrence D. Barry
212 N. 6th Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201
717-263-3804

FOR SALE:

1933 Emerson Mickey Mouse radio; 1936 Sparton Bluebird mirrored radio; and 1960's Pepsi dispenser radio. Best offer on each. All work and are in exceptionally nice condition.

Bob Lane
10332 Mohawk Lane
Leawood, KS 66206
913-648-5296

FOR SALE:

Mechanical Television!!! Get on board. Read THE MECHANICS OF TELEVISION. Get a copy from the author for only \$22 postpaid.

Peter Yanczer
835 Bricken,
St. Louis, MO 63122

WANTED:

Riders 2, 11-20 . Zenith 1BH571 chassis. Scott Philharmonic.
Gary Glazier
3031 EL Caminito
La Crescenta, CA 91214
818-248-1693

FOR SALE:

Admiral (1934 (?) Square top - not working EXC - \$55 - Nice Veneer & Designs. Crosley 51-P (1924) Battery Set (portable) W/battery compartment - Bad audio transformer - cloth covering worn, 1 latch missing, 2 hinges not original - \$95. - see 'Vintage Radio' pg. 79 Guild 556 (1956) Novelty Radio disguised as an old wall telephone - works - VG to EXC - \$65 - Turns off when you hang up the receiver. Also many other radios, books & tubes

Send 2 stamps for complete listing to
Ron Boucher
P.O. Box 541
Goffstown, NH 03045
603-497-2988

WANTED:

Atwater Kent complete speaker unit for console model 435 - also need one control knob.

Arlo Brakel
3937 E. 61st Blvd.
Davenport, IA 52807
319-383-2763

WANTED:

Riders Volumes 20 and 23. Originals only please. Write
Dan Healy
P.O. Box 764
Woodacre, CA 94973
415-488-4596

WANTED:

RCA 811K or 813K chassis or just the auto. tuning motor reversing switch.
Jim Coleman
P.O. Box Z2348
Pasadena, CA 91102
818-449-4000, ext. 173

WANTED:

Set Analyzers of the type made by Weston, Jewell, Radio City and others during the '30's! The instruments referred to permitted removal of a tube from the chassis, inserting a cable into the empty socket and plugging the tube into the analyzer where the tube element voltages and currents could be measured. Send make, technical information, condition and asking price to:

J.P.D. O'Dacre
548 Melton St.
Pembroke Ontario, Canada
K8A 2S1
613-732-9597

FOR SALE:

An AK "TA" unit less tubes, good plastic top, all binding post nuts, metal base has rust. \$100.00
Shipping paid.
James A. Fred
RI, Box 41
Cutler, IN 46920

WANTED:

Any or all equipment and literature on Thomas P. Giblin and the Standard Radio and Electric Company of Pawtucket, R.I. Also information on the first Transatlantic Flight by the Navy NC-4 in 1919 for which Giblin designed coils.
Leonard J. Arzoomanian
61 Columbus Ave.
North Providence, RI 02911
401-232-0869

WANTED:

Antenna name plate and phone post thumb screw for AK10C
Information on Chelsea Radio Regenerative Receiver # 104.
Paul R. Levesque
705 Oneawa Street
Kailua, Oahu, Hawaii
96734-2053
808-263-6398

WANTED:

Crosley #124 chassis and speaker, working or restorable. Please state asking price and condition.
Phillip Majewski
5830 Nuangola Road
Mountaintop, PA 18707

WANTED:

An early telegraph Register and old motors - pre 1910 and other early gadgets - patent models - scientific and technological artifacts. Have DeForest RJ-9 with good spherical Aubion to trade plus other rare items. Buy or sell.
Peter Thomashow
350 W. 20th St.
New York City, NY
10017
212-989-0213

All ads and Swap Shop items are printed in the Gazette free of charge. We do ask that you write your ad on a separate sheet of paper, type if possible, or print, and be sure to include your name and address. We reserve the right to edit all ads. ARCA is not responsible for any transactions, of course.



For a Merry Christmas—for a merry time every day and for many years to come—give your loved ones a Thompson Radio Receiving Set, a Thompson Speaker, or both.

THOMPSON RADIO

Thompson Radio Receiving Sets and Thompson Radio Speakers deliver the highest quality of simplified and economical radio entertainment. Both nearby and distant radio programs cannot be more faithfully reproduced than with a Thompson Radio Receiving Set. One of the many reasons for the advanced development and perfection in Thompson Radio

products is an organization composed of radio engineers who have been making radio apparatus *exclusively* ever since "radio" was called "wireless."

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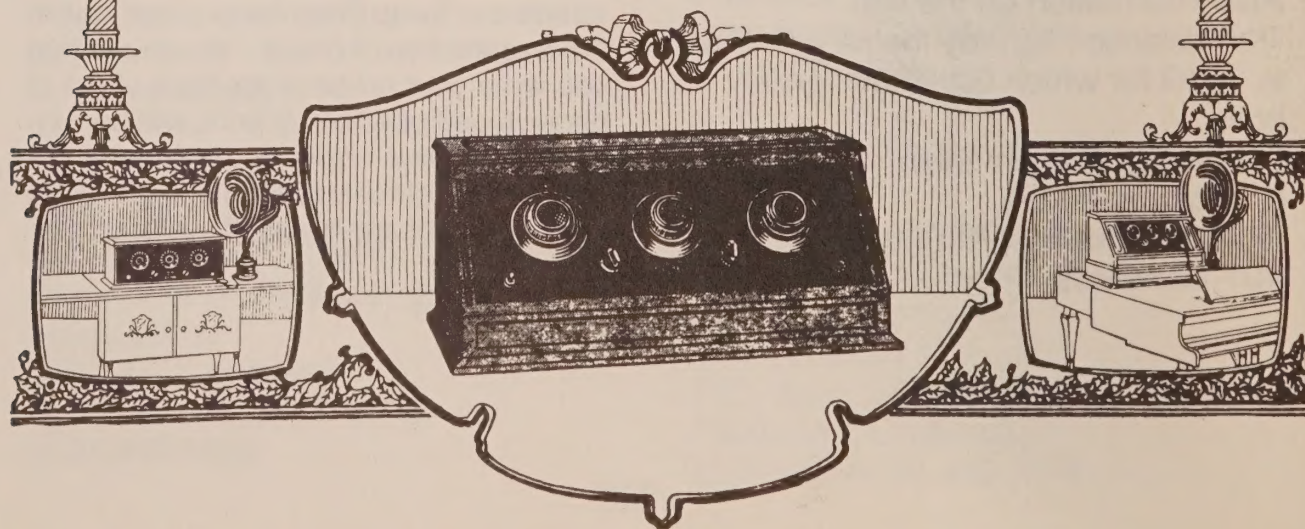
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